



Jan. 19, 2018

To People Interested in Acquired Brain Injury Issues:

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is accepting applications for membership on the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council.

The HHS executive commissioner will appoint members to the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council to serve a term of three years. The council will include key stakeholders as determined by the HHS executive commissioner. The council must include representatives of each of the following:

- One representative of an institution of higher education engaged in research that impacts people who have survived a brain injury.
- One person who has survived a brain injury representing diverse ethnic/cultural groups and geographic regions of Texas.
- One transition age youth service recipient who has survived a brain injury and is currently between 18 and 26 years old.
- One representative from the stroke committee of the Governor's EMS & Trauma Advisory Council or other stakeholder group with a focus on stroke.

The council advises the HHS executive commissioner and the HHSC Office of Acquired Brain Injury on strategic planning, policy, rules and services related to the prevention of brain injury; rehabilitation; and the provision of long-term services and supports for persons who have survived brain injuries to improve their quality of life and ability to function independently in the home and community. The council files an annual written report with the HHS executive commissioner, the governor and the Texas Legislature each even numbered year. The council must seek input from brain injury survivors, family members and caregivers and professionals on these issues and produce formal recommendations to HHS on how to implement sustainable service and support strategies that meet the complex needs of people who have survived a brain injury and those experiencing co-occurring conditions.

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A council member must regularly participate in council meetings and may also have to participate in committee meetings, projects and presentations. Council meetings will be held in Austin at least quarterly or at the call of the presiding officer. Council members won't receive compensation (a stipend) for participation on the council.

If you would like to serve on the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council, please complete and return the attached application no later than Feb. 28. You may submit the application by email, mail or fax. Here are the addresses:

Email:

Crystal.starkey@hhsc.state.tx.us

Attn: Crystal Starkey

Mail

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

P.O. Box 13247, 2010

Austin, TX 78711

Attn: Crystal Starkey

Fax:

512-206-5812

Attn: Crystal Starkey

HHSC will notify applicants if they have been selected to serve as a member of the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council.

HHSC considers the applicants' qualifications, background and interest in serving on the council. HHSC also tries to choose council members who, as a whole, represent the diversity of all Texans. For that reason, HHSC considers applicants' ethnicity, gender and geographic location.

For more information, contact Crystal Starkey at crystal.starkey@hhsc.state.tx.us or visit <https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/leadership/advisory-committees/texas-brain-injury-advisory-council>.